

Senate File 156 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 156

BY HOGG

A BILL FOR

1 An Act establishing an alternative supplementary weighting plan
2 for at-risk pupils and including applicability provisions.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 257.11, subsection 4, paragraph b, Code
2 2013, is amended by striking the paragraph and inserting in
3 lieu thereof the following:

4 b. In lieu of the supplementary weighting authorized under
5 this subsection, a school district may receive a supplementary
6 weighting amount under the alternative plan under subsection 4A
7 if the school district meets all the requirements of subsection
8 4A.

9 Sec. 2. Section 257.11, subsection 4, paragraph c, Code
10 2013, is amended by striking the paragraph.

11 Sec. 3. Section 257.11, Code 2013, is amended by adding the
12 following new subsection:

13 NEW SUBSECTION. 4A. *At-risk programs and alternative schools*
14 *— alternative weighting.*

15 a. In order to provide additional funding to school
16 districts to further the goal of overcoming the achievement gap
17 and for programs serving at-risk pupils and alternative school
18 pupils in secondary schools, and in lieu of the supplementary
19 weighting plan under subsection 4, an alternative supplementary
20 weighting plan for at-risk pupils is adopted. A supplementary
21 weighting of ninety-six ten-thousandths per pupil shall be
22 assigned to the percentage of pupils in a school district
23 enrolled in grades one through six, as reported by the school
24 district on the basic educational data survey for the base
25 year, who are eligible for free and reduced price meals under
26 the federal National School Lunch Act and the federal Child
27 Nutrition Act of 1966, 42 U.S.C. § 1751-1785, multiplied by the
28 budget enrollment in the school district; and a supplementary
29 weighting of three hundred twelve one-hundred-thousandths
30 per pupil shall be assigned to pupils included in the budget
31 enrollment of the school district. Amounts received as
32 supplementary weighting for at-risk pupils shall be utilized by
33 a school district, according to the requirements of paragraph
34 "b", to develop or maintain at-risk pupils' programs, which may
35 include alternative school programs.

1 *b.* To be eligible for the supplementary weighting plan
2 under paragraph "*a*", a school district shall satisfy all of the
3 following conditions:

4 (1) Designate a school district employee as an at-risk pupil
5 coordinator.

6 (2) Establish an at-risk pupil task force whose membership
7 shall consist, at a minimum, of a school counselor, a parent
8 of a low-income student, a teacher, a representative of the
9 area education agency, the school district's superintendent,
10 a representative of a local social service agency, a
11 representative of a community corrections or juvenile justice
12 agency, a representative of a community college or other
13 institution of higher education, a member of the board of
14 directors of the school district, and the at-risk pupil
15 coordinator. The at-risk pupil task force shall evaluate
16 the school district's programs and plans for at-risk pupils
17 and make recommendations for changes to such programs and
18 plans to comply with requirements and standards adopted by
19 the department and to further the goal of overcoming the
20 achievement gap.

21 (3) Meet the standards established by the department for
22 mentoring or tutoring at-risk students, before and after school
23 programs and summer programs for at-risk students, parenting
24 skills programs for parents of at-risk students, services for
25 dropouts and dropout prevention, and academic achievement for
26 at-risk students.

27 (4) Submit an application to the department by March 1 of
28 the preceding school year for supplementary weighting under
29 this subsection on forms prescribed by the department or submit
30 an annual report to the department by March 1 of the preceding
31 school year specifying the use of the amounts received as
32 the result of the supplementary weighting plan under this
33 subsection and specifying that all other requirements of this
34 subsection are being met.

35 *c.* The department of education shall adopt rules under

1 chapter 17A necessary to implement this subsection, including
2 rules that prescribe the standards for school district at-risk
3 programs and services, application forms, and forms necessary
4 to complete the annual reports required under paragraph "b",
5 subparagraph (4).

6 Sec. 4. APPLICABILITY. This Act applies to school budget
7 years beginning on or after July 1, 2014.

8 EXPLANATION

9 This bill establishes an alternative supplementary weighting
10 plan for at-risk programs and alternative schools. Under
11 the bill, a school district would receive supplementary
12 weighting in amounts that are double the specified amount
13 of supplementary weighting provided under the existing
14 supplementary weighting plan for at-risk programs and
15 alternative schools, under Code section 257.11, subsection 4,
16 paragraph "a".

17 To be eligible for the alternative supplementary weighting
18 plan, a school district shall designate an at-risk pupil
19 coordinator, establish an at-risk pupil task force consisting
20 of specified individuals, and meet all standards and
21 requirements established by the department of education
22 for programs and services for mentoring or tutoring at-risk
23 students, before and after school and summer programs for
24 at-risk students, parenting skills programs for parents of
25 at-risk students, services for dropouts and dropout prevention,
26 and academic achievement for at-risk students.

27 Under the bill, school districts must apply to the
28 department of education by March 1 of the preceding school year
29 for the alternative supplementary weighting provided under
30 the bill. The bill also requires each school district that
31 receives supplementary weighting under the new supplementary
32 weighting plan to submit an annual report to the department
33 of education detailing the use of the amounts received. The
34 bill requires the department of education to adopt rules under
35 Code chapter 17A necessary to implement the bill, including

1 rules that prescribe the standards for school district at-risk
2 programs and services, the standards for academic achievement
3 for at-risk students, and the forms necessary for applications
4 and to complete the annual reports.

5 The bill strikes obsolete language from Code section 257.11,
6 subsection 4, relating to supplementary weighting for at-risk
7 programs and alternative schools.

8 The bill applies to school budget years beginning on or after
9 July 1, 2014.